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78(Three Times Amended). In a microprocessor system including a central processing unit, a method for clocking said central processing unit comprising the steps of:

providing said central processing unit upon an integrated circuit substrate, said central processing unit being constructed of a first plurality of transistors and being operative at a processing frequency;

providing an entire variable speed clock disposed upon said integrated circuit substrate, said variable speed clock being constructed of a second plurality of transistors; [and]

clocking said central processing unit at a clock rate using said variable speed clock with said central processing unit being clocked by said variable speed clock at a variable frequency dependent upon variation in one or more fabrication or operational parameters associated with said integrated circuit substrate, said processing frequency and said clock rate varying in the same way relative to said variation in said one or more fabrication or operational parameters associated with said integrated circuit substrate;

connecting an on-chip input/output interface between said central processing unit and an external memory bus, and exchanging coupling control signals, addresses and data between said input/output interface and said central processing unit; and

clocking said input/output interface using an external clock wherein said external clock is operative at a frequency independent of a clock frequency of said oscillator.

Cancel claims 20, 66, 75 and 79.

REMARKS

In the April 23, 1998 telephone call, the Examiner indicated that placing the limitations of dependent claims 20, 66, 75 and 79 into their respective parent claims would place the application in condition for allowance. Applicants have accepted this proposal by submission of this amendment by facsimile, since adding these changes by Examiner's Amendment would have been cumbersome.

This application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, and allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Supplemental Amendment